



# Weekly Crop & Weather Roundup



Cooperating with the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture

2301 N Cameron St, Rm G-19 · Harrisburg, PA 17110  
(717) 787-3904 · (717) 782-4011 FAX · [www.nass.usda.gov](http://www.nass.usda.gov)

Week Ending June 22, 2008

Issued weekly, April-November

Released June 23, 2008, 4 pm

*This report can be found on the Internet at [www.nass.usda.gov/pa](http://www.nass.usda.gov/pa) and click on "Pennsylvania Publications."*

**Good week for Field Work:** Warmer weather continued to help emergence and growth of the spring crops. The wet weather however, did not allow for much dry hay making. Replanting of soybeans was necessary in a few areas because of earlier wet and cool conditions. Overall, five days were suitable for fieldwork. Principal farm activities included harvesting barley and sweet cherries, spraying, planting soybeans, as well as cutting and baling hay. Farmers continued to prepare for the upcoming wheat and barley harvest.

**PA Topsoil Moisture for Week Ending June 22, 2008**

| Very Short     | Short          | Adequate       | Surplus        |
|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| <i>Percent</i> | <i>Percent</i> | <i>Percent</i> | <i>Percent</i> |
| 1              | 21             | 68             | 10             |

**Crops:** The corn remains in good condition, as 72 percent of the crop is in good or excellent condition. Only 4 percent of the corn is in poor or very poor condition. The state's corn is estimated at 96 percent emerged, which is 3 percentage points above last year and 5 points above the five year average. The corn continued to have good growth last week, as the average height grew from 12 to 17 inches. Soybean condition seems fine as 80 percent of the crops are estimated as good or excellent with only 2 percent rated as poor or very poor. The state's soybeans are 92 percent planted, which is 5 percentage points lower than last year but 3 points ahead of the average. Eighty-three percent of the soybeans have now emerged, which is the same as last year and 8 points above average. Wheat remains in good condition as 84 percent of the state's wheat is in good or excellent condition. Only 5 percent of the wheat was estimated as poor or very poor. Sixty-six percent of the wheat is yellowing, which is down 7 points compared to last year, and only one point above average. Ninety-six percent of the barley has now turned yellow, which is 4 points above last year and 2 points above the average. Sixty percent of the barley crop is ripe after rapidly maturing over the previous week. Harvest for barley has energetically continued, as only 21 percent has been harvested. Oat conditions remained in good condition, with 80 percent of the oats in good or excellent condition. Sixty-two percent of the oat crop has begun the heading stage. The state's tobacco crop is now 99 percent transplanted, which is 1 point ahead of last year, and 14 points above the average. Alfalfa stand condition is at 86 percent good or excellent. The first cutting of alfalfa is nearing completion as 91 percent is complete, which is 6 points behind last year, and 9 points above the average. The second cutting of alfalfa is under way and shows to be 10 percent completed. The timothy/clover stand condition is at 81 percent good or excellent. The first cutting of timothy/clover is now 69 percent complete, which is 10 points behind last year and 13 points above the average. The quality of hay declined and is at 63 percent good or excellent, with 10 percent rated as poor. Peaches are still in good condition at 88 percent good or excellent, while apples condition declined and are at 70 percent good or excellent.

**Livestock:** Pasture conditions were not as high quality as last week. Sixty-seven percent of the state's pastures were estimated as good or excellent condition, which is down 8 points from last week. Along with

that, 10 percent of the pastures were rated as poor or very poor. The overall state's pasture conditions were estimated as follows: 5% very poor, 5% poor, 23% fair, 56% good, and 11% excellent.

**U.S. as of June 15, 2008:** Flooding worsened in parts of the upper Midwest. Heavy rain also continued to pound the southeastern Plains, limiting fieldwork and increasing disease concerns for unharvested winter wheat. Farther north, wet weather further eased drought, although very chilly weather slowed crop development. Cool weather in the Northwest further delayed the development of winter grains and spring-sown crops. Chilly conditions also prevailed in the West. Showers and thunderstorms dotted the Southeast, although hot weather boosted irrigation demands and generally increased stress on rain-fed summer crops. Concerns about stress on pastures and summer crops were greatest in areas where subsoil moisture was never fully restored after the 2007 drought. Hot weather occurred in the South and East.

**Corn:** Ninety-five percent of the corn acreage had emerged, 5 points behind last year and 3 points behind the 5-year average. Significant delays were evident in Missouri and Pennsylvania, where emergence was 16 and 10 points behind the 5-year average, respectively. Corn condition ratings declined from last week at the national level, with 57 percent of the crop rated good or excellent, compared with 60 percent last week. The decline in condition was primarily due to excessive rainfall and flooding in the Corn Belt, with the largest rating declines there in Iowa, Missouri, and Wisconsin.

**Soybeans:** Planting progress for soybeans reached 84 percent complete, compared with 94 percent for the 5-year average and 95 percent last year. Progress was behind the 5-year average in 12 of the 18 major soybean producing States. Significant delays occurred across much of the Corn Belt due to excessive rainfall and flooding. Seventy-one percent of the Nation's soybeans were emerged, 19 points behind last year and 15 points behind the 5 year average. Emergence trailed the 5-year average in all States except Louisiana, Michigan, and North Dakota. The percentage of soybean acreage rated in good to excellent condition declined 1 point during the week, with the largest declines in North Carolina and Wisconsin.

**Winter Wheat:** Eighty-nine percent of the winter wheat crop had reached the heading stage, 7 points behind last year and 6 points behind normal. Sixteen percent of the acreage was harvested, ahead of last year's pace of 11 percent, but 3 points behind the 5-year average. Harvest progress was at or behind the 5-year average in all States except California, North Carolina, and Texas.

**Oats:** Thirty-eight percent of the oat acreage was heading, 10 points behind last year and 8 points behind the 5-year average. Only Pennsylvania was ahead of the usual heading pace. The most significant lag was in Iowa, where excessive moisture delayed development. Heading progress in Iowa was 37 points behind the 5-year average. Nationally, the crop was rated 62 percent good to excellent.

### Weather Data For Week Ending June 22, 2008

| Station              | Last Week Weather Summary |     |         |     |               |      | April 1 - June 22, 2008 |       |      |              |      |          |
|----------------------|---------------------------|-----|---------|-----|---------------|------|-------------------------|-------|------|--------------|------|----------|
|                      | Temperature               |     |         |     | Precipitation |      | Precipitation           |       |      | GDD Base 50F |      | Base 40F |
|                      | High                      | Low | Average | DFN | Total         | Days | Total                   | DFN   | Days | Total        | DFN  | Total    |
| <b>Northwest</b>     |                           |     |         |     |               |      |                         |       |      |              |      |          |
| Erie                 | 82                        | 54  | 66      | -3  | 0.55          | 4    | 7.90                    | -1.85 | 37   | 812          | 181  | 1,530    |
| Franklin             | 83                        | 47  | 63      | -4  | 0.70          | 6    | 10.41                   | -0.35 | 43   | 677          | 67   | 1,394    |
| Meadville            | 80                        | 49  | 63      | -4  | 1.33          | 4    | 9.90                    | -0.55 | 36   | 699          | 155  | 1,415    |
| Mercer               | 82                        | 44  | 63      | -5  | 0.76          | 5    | 10.07                   | -0.52 | 44   | 657          | 43   | 1,381    |
| Springboro           | 81                        | 48  | 63      | -5  | 0.88          | 5    | 10.65                   | 1.34  | 41   | 632          | -15  | 1,321    |
| Warren               | 81                        | 49  | 62      | -6  | 1.55          | 7    | 9.87                    | -1.32 | 41   | 622          | 35   | 1,307    |
| <b>North Central</b> |                           |     |         |     |               |      |                         |       |      |              |      |          |
| Bradford Region      | 76                        | 42  | 58      | -5  | 2.37          | 7    | 9.97                    | -1.26 | 43   | 487          | 89   | 1,096    |
| Emporium             | 84                        | 46  | 63      | -1  | 1.11          | 5    | 7.73                    | -3.55 | 42   | 655          | 199  | 1,364    |
| Kane                 | 80                        | 43  | 60      | -3  | 1.53          | 5    | 9.70                    | -1.68 | 41   | 441          | 49   | 1,050    |
| Laporte              | 77                        | 44  | 60      | -7  | 1.88          | 6    | 10.73                   | 0.01  | 46   | 592          | -17  | 1,251    |
| Lock Haven           | 85                        | 46  | 65      | -3  | 0.97          | 4    | 9.26                    | -1.01 | 38   | 786          | 119  | 1,531    |
| Port Allegany        | 80                        | 43  | 60      | -4  | 1.40          | 6    | 8.53                    | -2.32 | 40   | 508          | 36   | 1,149    |
| Renovo               | 83                        | 47  | 65      | -4  | 1.28          | 5    | 9.50                    | -0.77 | 38   | 763          | 96   | 1,499    |
| Ridgway              | 79                        | 44  | 60      | -4  | 1.01          | 6    | 8.79                    | -2.49 | 41   | 511          | 55   | 1,166    |
| Stevenson Dam        | 83                        | 45  | 62      | -2  | 0.82          | 5    | 8.74                    | -2.54 | 40   | 653          | 197  | 1,357    |
| Towanda              | 83                        | 45  | 64      | -4  | 1.12          | 6    | 9.38                    | 0.37  | 37   | 680          | 57   | 1,383    |
| Wellsboro            | 80                        | 46  | 61      | -3  | 1.21          | 7    | 7.76                    | -1.01 | 44   | 538          | 122  | 1,178    |
| Williamsport         | 87                        | 46  | 67      | -2  | 1.41          | 6    | 7.65                    | -2.68 | 37   | 897          | 130  | 1,666    |
| <b>Northeast</b>     |                           |     |         |     |               |      |                         |       |      |              |      |          |
| Hawley               | 82                        | 45  | 63      | -3  | 0.94          | 4    | 9.36                    | -0.89 | 35   | 589          | 97   | 1,261    |
| Wilkes-Barre/Sc      | 83                        | 45  | 64      | -5  | 0.59          | 5    | 8.11                    | -1.49 | 38   | 809          | 99   | 1,531    |
| Susquehanna          | 82                        | 47  | 63      | -2  | 1.21          | 7    | 9.53                    | -1.20 | 42   | 623          | 158  | 1,319    |
| <b>West Central</b>  |                           |     |         |     |               |      |                         |       |      |              |      |          |
| Butler               | 81                        | 42  | 63      | -6  | 0.21          | 5    | 8.07                    | -2.48 | 50   | 651          | 1    | 1,387    |
| New Castle           | 87                        | 47  | 66      | -3  | 0.18          | 4    | 6.89                    | -2.64 | 43   | 782          | 133  | 1,538    |
| Slippery Rock        | 91                        | 44  | 63      | -3  | 0.47          | 4    | 9.20                    | -1.00 | 36   | 655          | 73   | 1,412    |
| <b>Central</b>       |                           |     |         |     |               |      |                         |       |      |              |      |          |
| Altoona/Blair        | 82                        | 43  | 64      | -5  | 0.38          | 4    | 10.05                   | 0.30  | 41   | 799          | 72   | 1,531    |
| DuBois               | 77                        | 43  | 61      | -6  | 1.16          | 6    | 8.47                    | -2.46 | 44   | 676          | 76   | 1,361    |
| Lewistown            | 86                        | 47  | 66      | -4  | 0.76          | 4    | 12.75                   | 2.45  | 34   | 818          | 9    | 1,558    |
| Middletown           | 86                        | 53  | 70      | -3  | 0.11          | 1    | 11.10                   | 0.69  | 32   | 1,009        | 84   | 1,793    |
| Prince Gallitzi      | 82                        | 41  | 62      | -4  | 1.53          | 4    | 9.34                    | -2.83 | 38   | 608          | 68   | 1,301    |
| Selinsgrove          | 87                        | 47  | 66      | -3  | 0.33          | 2    | 8.85                    | -1.58 | 31   | 801          | 69   | 1,540    |
| State College        | 83                        | 48  | 65      | -4  | 2.31          | 2    | 12.14                   | 2.58  | 34   | 835          | 125  | 1,578    |
| <b>East Central</b>  |                           |     |         |     |               |      |                         |       |      |              |      |          |
| Allentown-Bethel     | 86                        | 48  | 67      | -5  | 0.18          | 3    | 9.35                    | -1.12 | 31   | 863          | 35   | 1,613    |
| Lehighton            | 83                        | 49  | 65      | -6  | 0.21          | 3    | 8.79                    | -1.69 | 39   | 774          | -15  | 1,509    |
| Matamoras            | 83                        | 47  | 64      | -5  | 0.63          | 3    | 8.75                    | -2.35 | 38   | 642          | -53  | 1,336    |
| Mt_Pocono            | 77                        | 45  | 60      | -3  | 0.83          | 4    | 9.87                    | -1.81 | 37   | 567          | 156  | 1,222    |
| <b>Southwest</b>     |                           |     |         |     |               |      |                         |       |      |              |      |          |
| Pittsburgh/Alle      | 81                        | 49  | 65      | -4  | 0.09          | 5    | 9.94                    | -0.25 | 40   | 927          | 198  | 1,701    |
| Derry                | 82                        | 48  | 63      | -4  | 0.61          | 5    | 14.38                   | 4.24  | 44   | 772          | 108  | 1,518    |
| Myersdale            | 79                        | 45  | 60      | -8  | 0.69          | 4    | 13.94                   | 2.82  | 43   | 502          | -145 | 1,171    |
| Mount Pleasant       | 81                        | 45  | 63      | -3  | 0.75          | 4    | 12.89                   | 1.12  | 39   | 747          | 177  | 1,506    |
| Pittsburgh Intl      | 82                        | 47  | 64      | -5  | 0.11          | 4    | 7.92                    | -1.51 | 37   | 894          | 118  | 1,666    |
| Connellsville        | 83                        | 52  | 65      | -5  | 1.22          | 4    | 16.18                   | 5.08  | 44   | 865          | 60   | 1,638    |
| Waynesburg           | 82                        | 48  | 64      | -5  | 0.70          | 4    | 12.14                   | 1.92  | 36   | 733          | 34   | 1,493    |
| <b>South Central</b> |                           |     |         |     |               |      |                         |       |      |              |      |          |
| Biglerville          | 84                        | 48  | 66      | -7  | 0.37          | 3    | 13.35                   | 3.60  | 35   | 908          | -10  | 1,671    |
| Everett              | 82                        | 44  | 62      | -6  | 0.41          | 4    | 15.55                   | 6.17  | 39   | 693          | -8   | 1,415    |
| Hanover              | 85                        | 46  | 68      | -5  | 0.30          | 3    | 12.84                   | 3.09  | 38   | 908          | -10  | 1,666    |
| Harrisburg_AP        | 86                        | 51  | 69      | -4  | 0.21          | 1    | 7.87                    | -2.54 | 24   | 1,012        | 80   | 1,799    |
| South Mountain       | 84                        | 44  | 63      | -6  | 0.40          | 4    | 15.56                   | 5.81  | 42   | 689          | -31  | 1,399    |
| York                 | 85                        | 49  | 67      | -5  | 0.17          | 3    | 11.68                   | 1.18  | 38   | 980          | 54   | 1,759    |
| <b>Southeast</b>     |                           |     |         |     |               |      |                         |       |      |              |      |          |
| Green Lane           | 85                        | 51  | 68      | -2  | 0.41          | 3    | 11.52                   | 1.38  | 32   | 905          | 129  | 1,675    |
| Hamburg              | 87                        | 50  | 68      | -1  | 0.48          | 4    | 8.01                    | -4.22 | 34   | 922          | 240  | 1,692    |
| West_Chester         | 88                        | 46  | 67      | -5  | 0.13          | 1    | 9.20                    | -2.08 | 30   | 865          | -39  | 1,622    |
| Lancaster            | 85                        | 49  | 68      | -4  | 0.30          | 2    | 8.27                    | -2.00 | 33   | 896          | 65   | 1,659    |
| Neshaminy Falls      | 87                        | 51  | 68      | -3  | 0.07          | 1    | 11.77                   | 0.41  | 30   | 918          | 92   | 1,690    |
| New Holland          | 86                        | 50  | 69      | -2  | 0.21          | 1    | 11.13                   | 0.86  | 30   | 965          | 134  | 1,735    |
| Philadelphia         | 89                        | 56  | 73      | 0   | 0.04          | 1    | 9.28                    | -0.80 | 30   | 1,144        | 152  | 1,949    |
| Philadelphia NE      | 90                        | 56  | 73      | -1  | 0.22          | 1    | 8.81                    | -1.27 | 32   | 1,206        | 214  | 2,014    |
| Reading              | 88                        | 49  | 69      | -2  | 0.15          | 2    | 7.94                    | -3.45 | 36   | 982          | 179  | 1,754    |
| Valley Forge Na      | 88                        | 47  | 68      | -5  | 0.30          | 3    | 10.66                   | 0.12  | 34   | 871          | -99  | 1,649    |
| Willow Grove         | 86                        | 53  | 69      | -2  | 0.02          | 1    | 10.65                   | -0.71 | 33   | 990          | 164  | 1,774    |

DFN = Departure from normal (using 1961-90 normals period).

Precipitation (rainfall or melted snow or ice) and pan evaporation in inches.

Precipitation days = days with precipitation of .01 inch or more.

Air temperatures in degrees fahrenheit.

Copyright 2004: Agricultural Weather Information Service, Inc. All rights reserved.

# Internet Reporters Comments, By County:

Reporters are from Extension Service (Ext), Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Farm Service Agency (FSA), Conservation District (CD), farmers, commodity specialists, or other knowledgeable individuals.

**ADAMS COUNTY, Thomas Kerr** - Dry conditions this week made for excellent hay making, harvesting barley and sweet cherry harvest. The barley harvest is showing some excellent yields again this year. Producers are rushing to get double crop beans and corn following barley in the ground while there is still moisture. Promised rain showers for the county did not make it before they dried up.

**BUCKS COUNTY, Michael Fournier (EXT)** - Most corn fields in the county have less than optimum populations. The wet spots are really evident this year. Coupled with late planting dates and many re-planted fields, yields will also be less than optimum, and we haven't been through the dry season yet! Soybean planting is about done, but it's also late due to the May monsoons. A good deal of hay was made this week, some of it was high quality; some too old due to weather delays. The middle of the county has adequate soil moisture. Other parts are starting to get a little dry.

**CAMBRIA COUNTY, Dolly Little (FSA)** - Just as the fields begin to dry out, another thundershower comes through. Oats are heading, but many of the fields are short.

**CENTRE COUNTY, Dick Decker** - Last week was another good week for field work. There were a few showers that amounted to 1.1 inch in my gauge.

**CRAWFORD COUNTY, Ron McCorkle (NRCS)** - Last week was another week of off and on rain showers and storms. This ruined any chances of making dry hay. Producers that put up silage or baleage are in a much better production position compared to producers that only bale dry hay. The corn crop overall looks good, however the color of the corn is pale due to the rains and cool weather. Soybeans look good. Pastures are also doing better than expected because of the cool and damp weather.

**FOREST COUNTY, Thomas Tanner (FSA)** - Last week's rain was needed. There were severe thunderstorms with heavy downpours. Also, hail fell 3 different times this past week. Some strawberry fields were damaged. Some wheat and many acres of hay were flattened from the storms.

**JUNIATA COUNTY, Dave Stetler** - Not all days suitable for field work were suitable for hay baling.

**LYCOMING COUNTY, Michael Sherman (FSA)** - Areas that seemed to be missing showers earlier picked up some precipitation this week. Corn is coming along nicely, although some fields have been replanted due to early conditions. Hay crop has been excellent to this point. Oats are in the process of heading out. Wheat is beginning to turn yellow. Pasture growth has begun to slow. Beans are progressing fine at this point.

**NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY, Viola Pflieger** - It was hard to make hay this past week with rain every day. Hopefully we will get a few rain free days this week. We had 3/4" yesterday and last night.

**SNYDER COUNTY, William C. Sheaffer** - Barley harvest has begun and the reports on yields are respectable. Wheat is turning and looking good. The second cutting of alfalfa is close to beginning and looks very favorable. Replanting of soybeans has taken place in a few areas. Broadleaf weed control is a problem in some of the corn fields. Rain is needed in some areas. Main activities for the week were haymaking and spraying herbicides.

**TIOGA COUNTY, Pamela Barnes** - Last week was a very wet week. Over an 8-day period we have had over 3 inches of rain. If you go only a few miles away, they might have had only 1 or 2 inches. Corn really took off with the first few showers, but is ready for the sun to shine. There is water standing in a few fields. The second cutting of hay will be able to be cut in a week to ten days.

**WESTMORELAND COUNTY, Eric Oesterling (EXT)** - Scattered thunderstorms with severe hail damaged fruit in a few orchards.

**WESTMORELAND COUNTY, John Lohr (FSA)** - Wet and cool conditions continue. A large number of early-planted corn and soybean fields have been replanted after the cold, wet May. The best looking fields are now the ones planted in late May or early June. Hay harvesting progress is lagging well behind normal with almost no good dry hay making weather yet this season. Hay quality is lower because of the wet conditions and the late harvest.

**PA Crop Progress for Week Ending June 22, 2008**

| Crop                        | Current Week   | Last Year      | 5-Year Average |
|-----------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
|                             | <i>Percent</i> | <i>Percent</i> | <i>Percent</i> |
| Corn, emerged               | 96             | 93             | 91             |
| Corn average height, inches | 17             | 24             | 20             |
| Barley, turning yellow      | 96             | 92             | 94             |
| Barley, ripe                | 60             | 57             | 54             |
| Barley, harvested           | 21             | 0              | 20             |
| Wheat, turning yellow       | 66             | 73             | 65             |
| Oats, heading or headed     | 62             | 64             | 53             |
| Soybeans, planted           | 92             | 97             | 89             |
| Soybeans, emerged           | 83             | 83             | 75             |
| Tobacco, transplanted       | 99             | 98             | 85             |
| Alfalfa, 1st cutting        | 91             | 97             | 82             |
| Alfalfa, 2nd cutting        | 10             | 27             | 15             |
| Timothy clover, 1st cutting | 69             | 79             | 56             |

**PA Crop Condition for Week Ending June 22, 2008**

| Crop                               | Very Poor      | Poor           | Fair           | Good           | Excellent      |
|------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
|                                    | <i>Percent</i> | <i>Percent</i> | <i>Percent</i> | <i>Percent</i> | <i>Percent</i> |
| Corn                               | 1              | 3              | 24             | 55             | 17             |
| Wheat                              | 4              | 1              | 11             | 60             | 24             |
| Oats                               | 1              | 0              | 19             | 54             | 26             |
| Soybeans                           | 0              | 2              | 18             | 64             | 16             |
| Alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures stand | 0              | 2              | 12             | 61             | 25             |
| Timothy clover stand               | 0              | 3              | 16             | 65             | 16             |
| Quality of hay made                | 0              | 10             | 27             | 41             | 22             |
| Pasture                            | 5              | 5              | 23             | 56             | 11             |
| Peaches                            | 0              | 0              | 12             | 31             | 57             |
| Apples                             | 0              | 0              | 30             | 31             | 39             |

**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

**OFFICIAL BUSINESS**

**United States**  
**Department of Agriculture**  
 National Agricultural Statistics Service  
 Pennsylvania Field Office  
 2301 N Cameron St Room G-19  
 Harrisburg PA 17110-9405

|   |
|---|
| <b>FIRST CLASS MAIL</b><br>POSTAGE & FEES PAID<br>USDA<br>PERMIT NO. G-38 |
|---|